CLOSING NEW YORK STOCKS PAGE 18.

No. 29,651.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1917-TWENTY-TWO PAGES.

GREAT FLEET OF VESSELS TORUNU-BOATBLOCKADE, FIRST U. S. BLOW IN WAR

Plentiful Supply of Food, Clothing and Munitions for Allies Most Effective Possible Aid for Present.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE ARE SENDING NOTABLE DELEGATIONS TO AMERICA

Balfour and Viviani to Head Commission Coming to Consider Co-Operation in the Common War Against Germany-Gen. Joffre May Be One of the Members.

A campaign of colossal proportions to break down the German submarine blockade and keep the entente plentifully supplied with food, clothing and munitions has been determined upon by President the House. No foraml action by the Wilson and his advisers as this country's first physical stroke against

Unable now to send an army into the trenches, the President believes the United States can do greater service in the common cause against Germany by providing a great armada of merchantmen to invalidate the undersea campaign, about which have been rallied the fading hopes of Prussian conquest.

DETAILS OF PLAN WORKED OUT.

For weeks officials have been at work on such a plan, but not until today was it revealed on how great a scale the task had been in hand. projected, or how great importance was attached to it in the administration's general war program.

Virtually every detail now has been completed, and by fall the campaign itself will be in full swing. Many officials believe it may attain a supremacy over the submarine which will prove the decisive victory of the great war.

All Shipyards to Help.

the first fleet of merchantmen, and to building in all the shipyards of the insure maximum construction the shipping board has enlisted the country's world.

Already lumber interests have given assurances of an adequate supply of timber at reasonable prices. Engine manufacturers have pledged their copperation, too, and all the necessary machinery for the vessels can be assembled as fast as they can be turned out at the yards. At more than one plant new ways already are under construction to take care of the government building orders.

otic co-operation by laborers to insure are convinced that by building ships of that the campaign against the subma-only 2,000 or 3,000 tons, and forcing rine begin at the earliest possible mo- Germany to pay with a torpedo for

AMERICA'S PART IN THE WAR

TO BE THEME OF DISCUSSION

selected to supervise the construction Quickly built, ligh wooden ships of within the next year a total tonnage of 3,000,000 tons, or more than now is

entire shipbuilding facilities, now the greatest in the world. Upward of a hundred private plants on all the coasts will help, giving the board's orders precedence over every other class of work except the most urgent naval construction. For the first year production is expected to reach an average of three ships a day.

Already lumber interests have given assurances of an adequate supply of timber at reasonable prices. Engine manufacturers have pledged their coperation, too, and all the necessary machinery for the vessels can be assembled as fast as they can be turned out at the yards. At more than one plant new ways already are under coperation.

In their calculations the President ment. The shipping board estimates each one sent to the bottom, the United

ment. The shipping board estimates that 150,000 men will be needed to work all the plants to capacity and to complete the building program in the time determined on. This total is nearly ten times the number of laborers now employed in building merchant craft throughout the country.

Volunteers for this class of public service, it is pointed out, need not be experienced in shipbuilding, as comparatively little expert labor will be required for the type of wooden vessels to be built. Within a few days the board will establish a labor bureau to enlist such volunteers. The American Federation of Labor already is cooperating, and motion picture companies are planning to display pictures of shipbuilding operations as part of the campaign for labor recruits.

Maj. Gen. George W. Goethals, builder of the Panama canal, has been

HALF OF WAR FUND FROM TAXES, PLAN OF U.S. FINANCIERS

Secretary McAdoo Explains the Revenue Bill to the Sen-

QUICK ACTION EXPECTED

Chairman Simmons Announces That Little Opposition Is Looked

The \$7,000,000,000 war revenue bill ommittee today by Secretary McAdoo. vas expressed and he expects its quick passage after it has been approved by

taxation, the remainder by bonds.

ond bill, members of the ways and means committee are discussing only BRAZIL NOT TO GO tentatively the possible subjects of tax ation which are to be included in the new tax bill, the preparation of which will be the next task they must take

TO WAR AT PRESENT

Republic to Confine Itself Now

to Break in Relations

With Germany.

GIVES REASON FOR STAND

RIO JANEIRO, April 12 .- It is be

lieved here that the government will confine itself for the present to the

severance of diplomatic relations with

Germany, and that a declaration of

Aggravating Circumstances

that the Parana was proceeding under re-

rowd which had gathered before

Not Question for Indemnity.

minister, has issued a denial of the re-

action. Herr Pauli, former German minister,

from Berlin in regard to the arrange ments for transferring the care of Ger-

"Considering that the inquiry and the

magnitude comparable to the construcmagnitude comparable to the construction of a tariff bill, with this difference,
however, that in making up a tariff
bill the object of every interest is to
"get in" on protection and in this case
it will be to "get from under" taxation.
One definite policy will determine the
course of the committee, it is said, and
that will be to spread the taxes in a
way to equalize the burden as far as
possible among all classes. Some members of the committee contend there is
departure from this program in the bers of the committee contend there is departure from this program in the proposition to make another drive at incomes and great wealth, but this contention is resisted by the proponents of the policy, who insist that the wealth of the nation must stand another haul as well as the rank and file who must contribute their "bit" in the taxation of multitudinous items entering into their daily life, business and consumption.

up a tariff bill the practice invariably tions with Germany was officially an- to the State Department today is for the party in power to frame its nounced by the Brazilian government In this case, however, there is disponished a combination of reasons is announcement to the press. The characteristic among some members of the given for this action, the official expression and the same of the given for this action, the official expression is announcement to the press. The characteristic action is announcement to the press. House to let the republicans have a planation reading: and the shipping board have had the voice in the preliminaries, thus sharing advice of the allied naval authorities, rsponsibility. One argument put forth The question of labor, however, is and have computed carefully the abili- in support of this suggestion is that it giving officials some concern, and a ty of German U-boats to cope with would expedite action through Con- conclusions cabled by the legation at call may be issued appealing for patri- large numbers of merchantmen. They gress if the conflicting interests fought Paris on the subject of the torpedoing of out their troubles in committee and the steamer Parana established the fact brought in a harmonious report to the

> come taxes, especially heavy on those above \$50,000; material increase in above \$50,000; material increase in taxes on beer, whisky, wines and to-bacco; consumption tax on tea and coffee; renewal of the Spanish war taxes, including stamp taxes, patent medicines, etc.; candy, glucose, talking machines and records; amusement places, "soft" drinks and soda fountains; bill board and newspaper advertising; automobiles and combustion engines of all kinds; copper, pig iron, petroleum, cotton and denatured alcohol. Another suggestion is an increase of postal rates as being easily borne and more widely distributed than anything else. The committee will not begin work on the bill until next week, after the bond bill has gone to the Senate.

WILLIAM C. FITTS NAMED FOR NEW FEDERAL POST

eral by the President-Handled Riggs Bank Case.

President Wilson today sent to the Senate the nomination of William C. Fitts of Alabama to be assistant at-Arthur J. Balfour, and including Admiral De Chair, representing the navy; Gen. Bridges, representing the army, drily enough conversant with the American situation not to press the convergence of the Bank of Eng. torney general. Mr. Fitts, who has fully enough conversant with the fully enough conversal with the fully enough conversal with the decision satuation not to press the fully enough conversal with the date of the so-called Riggs on the trial o

CONCERNED ABOUT RUSS.

Bulgars Have Made Peace Move, Says Report From Switzerland

LONDON, April 12, 4:13 p.m.—Reports from a Swiss source have been received in Rome that the Bulgarian minister at Bern has made overtures to the entente ministers with a view to the conclusion of a separate peace, says the Exchange Telegraph's Rome correspond-

Similar advices regarding Bulgaria are sent by the Exchange Telegraph representative at Lausanne. He reports that the Gazette of that city states it has learned that semi-official Bulgarian delegates are in Switzerland endeavoring to arrive at a basis for a separate peace with representatives of the entente.

republicans be invited to share in the original framing of the bill, as they were asked to participate in the reporting of the big bond issue. In making up a tariff bill the pression is to be made that the seizing the German ships in Brazilian harbors has been postponed. The German minister was given his passports at Petropolis last night.

Waters.

The position taken by Costa Rica is similar to that assumed by Fanama, which also failed to declare war, but offered co-operation with the United States.

First

nounced by the Brazilian government dispatch from the American charge a in a communication to the press last Rio, who transmitted the government's

READY TO MOVE TROOPS.

Railroads Directed by Their Committee to Expedite Movements.

NEW YORK, April 12,-Additional in tively proposed: A consumption tax of inside, including the shield with the name the country to aid in expediting the 1 cent a pound on sugar; increased in-'Brazil,' and considering that the steamer movements of troops have been sent received no warning to stop, according to from here by the special committee on unanimous deposition of the crew, and, national defense of the American Railfurther, that the steamer was torpedoed way Association.

> submarine made no attempt to save life, hen, in the presence of such aggravating circumstances and in accord with the note of February 2 and the telegram of February 13, sent by the Brazilian government, to the legation at Berlin, the promptly and intelligently in loading and a committee of five senators, to the Senators. Brazilian government severs relations with Germany."
> As soon as this became known a great association representatives to communi- by the friends of the resolution that it cate to the quartermaster any informapalace cheered for the government and People ran through the tion they may receive regarding the committee, or that it would be pigeonstreets shouting and singing patriotic status of equipment for moving troops songs and there was general rejoicing. status of equipment for moving troops for the investigation might have

> Jonas Weil, Philanthropist, Dead. Dr. Lauro Muller, Brazilian foreign NEW YORK, April 12.-Jonas Weil, a port that he advocated demanding comwidely known Jewish philanthropist, pensation from Germany for the loss has died at his home here in his eightof the Parana and the punishment of the submarine commander, rather than many, and came o New York in 1860. torpedoed he recognized that it was business and had given away nearly day. Any further action on the less-not a question for indemnity, but for \$1,000,000 to various charities. He was lution, therefore, cannot be had until founder and president of Lebanon Hos- that time. pital in this city and was one of the informed the foreign office today that he would be unable to leave Brazil before April 18, because he lacked instructions founders of the Jewish Theological minary and the Federation of Jewish

Investigation Defeated. 36 to 30.

MAY BE PASSED MONDAY

(Continued on Second Page.)

Motion to Refer Resolution for

STAR IS TO GIVE ITS THIRD EXHIBIT SATURDAY NIGHT TO SECURE RECRUITS

of motion pictures in connection with its campaign to obtain recruits for the United States Navy. They will be shown on the 11th street side of The Star building, beginning at 8 o'clock, if the weather permits.

bands from the Washington navy yard on hand to give a concert a half hour before the starting of the pictures and also during the exhibition.

Several reels of films showing life in the United States coast guard will be a feature of the film exhibition, and saving activities.

Miss Agnes Whelan is to sing the patriotic song entitled "America, Here Is My Boy," amid an appropriate setting, and Charles B. Hanford, Shakespearean actor,

War Department to Make Move for Volunteers for Army.

TO SERVE DURING THE WAR

today to issue instructions to recruiting officers which will be in effect a call for 500,000 volunteers to fill up the regular army and the existing units of the National

All recruits enlisted since the declaration of war and those to be enlisted nereafter will be notified that they will e discharged at the close of the war, putting them in the status of wartime

A total of 4,355 men already have been enrolled in the regular army who will come under such a status. This number of recruits was accepted during the first ten days after the passage of the war resolution.

Where the Men Are Needed. Analysis of the pending administra-

ion bill as it affects the regular army and the National Guard shows that provision is made for the absorption of Germans in the region southwest of 517,868 volunteers. Of these 161,519 Laon all they can attend to, preventingwill be needed to fill up the regular any reinforcements from this sector of

will be needed to fill up the regular army and 206,349 for the National Guard. As 150,000 men must be withdrawn from these two services within six months to train the first 500,000 increment of the selective conscript army their places must be taken by that number of additional volunteers.

By this plan, while absorbing the volunteer spirit of the country, the feasibility of depending entirely upon volunteers will be demonstrated. Army officers are certain that it will show Congress, where there are some doubts of the selective conscription plan, that conscription is necessary to maintain an army adequate to meet the present situation.

The dent in the French line caused by the British offensive.

The dent in the French line caused by the German attack in the Champagnes straightened out. Paris reports the rosing re-established intact by means of a sharp attack delivered east of a sparpeaul.

British Astride Souchez.

LONDON, April 12.—The British capetured, early this morning, two important positions in the enemy's lines north of the Vimy ridge and are now

Officials Believe Militia May Be Recruited to 440,000

Under National Defense Act is responsible for the contemplated change of the administration's policy in regard to the mobilization of the National Guard for war.

Officials now think the law grants tional guard units up to the full limit trict. If that view is sustained by the fed-ergiments as any state may decide to the key position at Monchy-form will be recognized by the fed-eral government and be drafted into eral government and be drafted into the federal service, when that action with respect to units already the big guns and to make g

Would Make Army of 440,000. The effect of that change would be

found to have a full strength of 440,000 enlisted men in the first element of the war-time national army. The present policy of the War Department of drafting only those units now existing and such additional units as may be necessary to fill out divisional organization, or which have armories and other evidences of permanency, would produce about 330,000 men.

The War Department has decided to raise the regular army up to the full strength prescribed by the national defense act—257,000—immediately on the passage of the war organization. o make it possible for the National NEW YORK, April 12.—Additional instructions to the railroads throughout the country to aid in expediting the movements of troops have been sent from here by the special committee on national defense of the American Railway and Electric Company won, in the Senate today, the first round in their fight to have a congressional investigation of the causes of the strike.

The association's representatives will receive from the department quartermaster of the army advices regarding all movements, it was said, as well as the details necessary to enable them to act promptly and intelligently in loading and entraining. It will be the duty of the association representatives to communities of five senators, to the Senate refused to refer Senator Hughes' resolution, providing for an investigation by a committee of five senators, to the Senate refused to refer Senator Hughes' resolution, providing for an investigation by a committee of five senators, to the Senate refused to refer Senator Hughes' resolution, providing for an investigation by a committee of five senators, to the Senate refused to refer Senator Hughes' resolution, providing for an investigation by a committee of five senators, to the Senator Hughes' resolution, providing for an investigation by a committee of five senators, to the Senator Hughes' resolution, providing for an investigation by a committee of five senators, to the Senator Hughes' resolution, providing for an investigation by a committee of five senators, to the Senator Hughes' resolution, or which have armories and other evidences of permanency, would proque about 230,000 men. The War Department has decided to The War Department

Would Extend Exemptions. A committee headed by Jane Addams

of Chicago has discussed with Secretary Baker the exemption clauses of tary Baker the exemption clauses of the administration's army bill providing for the additional forces to be raised by selective draft. Men who are affiliated with religious societies which oppose war would be exempted under the bill. The committe urged that there are individuals unconnected with any such sects whose religious convictions also are against war, and that these persons should be accorded similar exemption.

The whole question of religious exemption has been thoroughly discussed before the House committee by Mr. Baker, and there is no indication that the department will recommend any change.

change.

RAISES \$112,000,000 FOR WAR.

Total Subscriptions to Recent Australian Loan Are Announced.

LONDON, April 12 .- A Melbourne dissubscriptions to the recent Australian war loan were £22,400,000. The loan was launched in January for £18,000.000 at 4½ per cent. A previous loan of £10,000,000 was issued in February, 1916, and was oversubscribed.

"East of Sapigneul a sharp attack enabled us to expel the enemy from certain portions of trenches which he had held since April 4, and our line was re-established intact. Two surprise at tacks by the Germans in the Chamber 1916, and was oversubscribed. patch to Reuter's says that the total

Expropriates Harvest Reserves. LONDON, April 12 .- A Petrograd dis-

sional government has ordered all reserves of the 1916 harvest of corn and cereals which are fit for fodder to be placed at the disposal of the state The entire reserves of the 1917 harvest, except what is required for seed and needs of the families of the peasants, has also been expropriated.

Acts as Austrian War Minister. LONDON, April 12.-Field Marshall

von Schleyer, chief of the war control department, has been appointed temdepartment, has been appointed temporary minister of war for Austria-Hungary, according to a Vienna dispatch to the Central News by way of Amsterdary. Field Marshal von Schleyer succeeds Gen. von Klobatin, who recently resigned.

Sam Chip, Comedian, Dead.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., April 12.—Sam Chip, the comedian, died suddenly at a

ROCHESTER, N. Y., April 12.—Sam Chip, the comedian, died suddenly at a hotel here last night after an attack of acute indigestion. For several years he had been associated with Mary Marble in vaudeville. He was known in private life as Samuel Kornblum, and resided in Brooklyn.

A. -----

ALLIES SHOWERING FOR 500,000 MEN BLOWS ON GERMANS **ALONG WEST FRONT**

ONE CENT.

British Forces Capture Important Positions North of Vimy Ridge.

ASTRIDE THE SOUCHEZ

French Drive Teutons Back Below St. Quentin-Von Hindenburg's Attacks Fail.

Despite the most unfavorable weather

onditions prevailing the British conagainst the Germans along the line from Lens to St. Quentin. the greater part of their attention to the

important sector of the line near Vimy end of the front, which they have capsumption by the French of the generalattack. Seemingly they are giving the

astride of the River Souchez, according to an official statement issued by the to an official statement issued by the war office. A number of prisoners were taken. The statement says the weather conditions continue wet and stormy. About 1,000 yards of trenches south of Farbus wood, in the region southeast of Vimy, were captured by the British this morning, Reuter's correspondent telegraphs from the front. A hill southeast of Wancourt also was captured. The dispatch's says:

"The past twenty-four hours has been marked by a general increase in the intensity of the fighting. The Germans appear to have been reinforced in the positions upon which the British assating

counter attack at Bullecourt, but I ha

French Take Important Positions.

PARIS. April 12.-In an attack last

between Coucy and Quincy-Bassee, the French drove back the Germans to the southwestern edge of the upper Coucy, forest, capturing several important por tions, the war office announces. The official statement follows: "Between the Somme and the Oise, are

tillery fighting continued with violence during the night, especially in the region

during the night, especially in the region of Urvillers.

"South of the Oise, our troops, after artillery preparation, attacked the Gereman positions east of the line from Cours. La Ville to Quincy-Bassee. After a spirited engagement, we forced back the enemy as far as the southwestern edge of the upper Cours forest. Several important points of support fell into our hands notwithstanding the resistance of the enemy, who left a number of dead on the ground and prisoners in our hands. Penetrate German Lines.

"In the region northeast of Solsso

there were patrol encounters and active artillery fighting, especially in the sector of Laffaux. North of the Aisne out reconnoitering parties penetrated the German lines at several points an brought back forty prisoners, one whom is an officer. "East of Sapigneul a sharp attac

enabled us to expel the enemy from certain portions of trenches which he had held since April 4, and our line was re-established intact. Two surprise attacks by the Germans in the Champagne, in the sectors of Ville-sur-Tourbe and Butte du Mesnil, were broken up by our fire, which inflicted losses on the enemy.

"In an incursion into the German lines in the Woevre, northeast of Remenauville, we inflicted appreciable losses on the enemy. Patrol encounters occurred southwest of Leintrey."

German Official Report.

BERLIN, April 12.-Last night's of ficial communication assued by the wa office says: "Near Fampoux (east of Arras) Eng-

lish infantry attacks and several cave

alry attacks near Roeux failed, with

heavy enemy losses. "On the southern bank of the Scarpe,

German Statement.

BERLIN, April 12, via London, 5:47 p.m. British attacks participated in by cavalry and armored cars to the north of Monchy yesterday, says the

No Expedition at Present.

The military participation of the United States also will be discussed in broad terms, though it is post-cated, will necesstrate parts that the entente commission—ers would seek to bind the United States to the general arrangement not to negotiate a separate peace is generally discounted here, though officials take care not to express themselves flatly sunderstood by the allies, it has been stated that the United States will reduce the United States from an the United States will reduce the United States from an the United States will reduce the United States from an the United States will reduce the United States from an the United States will reduce the United States from an the United States are not to express the management of neutrality will be observed.

The military participation of the United States sake will be discussed will be discussed that the United States also will be discussed will be discussed that the United States will be discussed will be discussed that the United States will be discussed that the United States will be discussed that the United States w

yesterday. They were brought to the hotel by the British ambassador, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, and at an early hour this morning left their quarters, presumably to keep an engagement with some person and at some place unknown.

Official dispatches on the coming of the French and British commissions only mention the possibility that Gen. Joffre may accompany former Premier Viviani of France, but do not give any definite announcement. While it is possible that joint sessions will be held,

The government today began to pre- to judge when that moment has arrived pare for important war councils to be and will not commit itself over and held here soon with commissions from above its own aims in the war to an un-England and France. The State De- limited liability for territorial aims of partment announced it expects the ar- the allies. It is recognized that it rival within a few days of a British would be difficult to convey this imdelegation, headed by Foreign Minister pression to the entente without being

and the governor of the Bank of England. It was learned authoritatively also that a French commission, headed by M. Biviani, minister of justice and former premier, will arrive about the same time.

Four officers of the British royal navy—Vice Admiral M. E. Browning, Capt. A. Lowndees, Lieut. Commander A. R. J. Southley and Capt. E. G. Cheeseman—registered at the Hotel Lafayette yesterday. They were brought to the hotel by the British ambassador, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, and at an early hour this morning left their quarters, presumably to keep an engagement with some person and at some place unknown.

Official dispatches on the coming of the French and British commissions the French and British commissions the French and British commissions and the safeguarding by American ships of at least part of the sea lane to Europe. Whether the latter will necessitate the actual sending of American war craft to the other side has not been announced, but arrangements already have been made to use

ate Committee.

AFTER PASSAGE IN HOUSE

For in the Senate.

Possible Subjects of Taxation. Pending action by the House on the

They do not underestimate the difficulties which will confront them in this undertaking, which indeed will be of

Here are some of the objects tenta- duced speed, was illuminated outside and

Nominated Assistant Attorney Gen-

Two More Latin American Republics Give Support to U. S. on Entry Into War

donment of their neutrality, two mor-Latin American republics, Argentina and Costa Rica, have given assurances of their moral support for the United States in the war against Germany.

Without formally announcing aban

might be allowed to die in the Distric

Cannot Pass This Week.

It was generally conceded, following the vote, that the resolution providing for the investigation would now pass the Senate. A motion was adopted, however, providing that when the Sen a breach of relations. Dr. Muller says many, and came of New Jones at adjourns today it was to meet Monbusiness and had given away nearly day. Any further action on the reso-

The Hughes resolution came before the Senate when the committee on con-tingent expenses, through its chairman,

The Star Saturday night will give the third exhibition

Arrangements have been made to have one of the

official Navy Department films showing the operation of big guns on the United States battleships also will be shown. The coast guard pictures are of particular interest at this time, for when war was declared this service automatically became a part of the United States Navv. The pictures will show scenes in the Arctic and also life-

will recite "The Star Spangled Banner." The entire program for the evening has not yet been completed and further announcements probably will be made tomorrow. and the second of the second s